The invention claimed is:

Claims 1- 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A rotary cutting apparatus comprising

an adjustable grass guide consisting essentially of a substantially rigid and rectangular member spanning the cutting width of the apparatus transversely,

wherein the angle of said grass guide can be adjusted within an angular range of 1 to 90 degrees from vertical and temporarily fixed at any angle within said range,

a means for adjusting and temporarily fixing said angle within said range,

a plurality of drive shafts aligned above and substantially parallel to said grass guide and extending rearward of the rear-most point of said grass guide when said angle is fixed at 90 degrees from vertical,

a means for mounting said drive shafts to said grass guide such that said drive shafts remain substantially parallel with said grass guide throughout its full range of angular adjustment,

~~a plurality of blades,~~

~~each~~ a cutting blade centrally fixed to the rearward-extending end of each drive shaft in substantially perpendicular orientation to ~~the shaft~~ said drive shafts and said grass guide,

wherein the lowest point of each cutting blade extends below said grass guide when said angle is fixed at 90 degrees from vertical,

a power means driving the rotation of said drive shafts,

~~each shaft projecting downward from a power means at an angle tilted longitudinally between 51 and 90 degrees from vertical,~~

~~a grass guide,~~

a chassis, and

a means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface.

~~said grass guide being a straight, rigid structure mounted substantially parallel to said drive shafts,~~

~~the bottom most portion of said grass guide remaining in a mounting position abutting a horizontal plane that is above any horizontal plane that is abutted by one or more of the ends of said plurality of blades, said ends of said plurality of blades being in their lowest positions, such that each of said plurality of blades will only cut grass when said blades are in the lower portions of their planes of rotation, reducing each blade's cutting area and therefore reducing the power required to cut said grass,~~

~~said grass guide in said mounting position also forcing said grass of sufficient height to contact said grass guide prior to encountering said blades and in the cutting path of said plurality of blades to bend such that said uncut grass in said cutting path is positioned in an approximately perpendicular orientation to each blade's plane of rotation and is constrained such that movement of said uncut grass is restricted as it is cut by said plurality of blades.~~

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for adjusting and temporarily fixing said angle within said angular range comprises

an arched housing spanning the cutting width of the apparatus transversely,

an arched adjustment plate of similar radius to that of said arched housing and connected to said grass guide,

wherein said arched housing and said arched adjustment plate are positioned adjacent to each other such that a portion of each overlaps in with that of the other,

wherein the angle of said grass guide can be adjusted within an angular range 1 to 90 degrees from vertical by sliding said arched adjustment plate forward and rearward, and

a means to temporarily fix said grass guide at an angle selected from within said angular range.

~~angle is selected from the group consisting of some or all degrees between 5 and 90 degrees from vertical without tilting the chassis around the wheel axles.~~

Claim 21 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface comprises

a handle to facilitate manual propulsion of the apparatus over the cutting surface and

one or more wheels fixed to the chassis by way of wheel axles.

~~The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said angle is fixed at a single degree between 51 and 90 from vertical.~~

Claim 22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means comprises ~~a single~~ one or more electric motors.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means consists of an internal combustion engine.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means consists of a hybrid power source ~~comprising~~

~~an internal combustion engine and~~

~~one or more electric motors~~.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor is or motors are ~~is~~ powered by ~~a battery or~~ one or more batteries.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor is or motors are powered by

a combination of ~~a battery or~~ one or more batteries and

one or more solar cells.

Claim 30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor is or motors are powered by one or more fuel cells.

Claim 32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (currently amended) The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor is or motors are powered by an electrical extension cord plugged into an electrical outlet.

Claim 34 (canceled)

Claim 35 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said cutting blades are replaceable.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means is replaceable.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface is self-guiding.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the distance between the plane of rotation of said cutting blades and the rear-most portion of said grass guide is adjustable.